Proposal for merger of MECON and SAIL

2316. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for the merger of State owned Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd. with the Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this merger of the two large undertakings is likely to increase the efficiency and productivity of MECON and SAIL; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Widening of Shahadara-Loni Road

2317. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1168 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether any progress has since been made in awarding the contract to any party for widening the Shahadara-Loni Road, Delhi so far;

(b) if so, whether the N.I.T has been finalised by the competent authority;

(c) whether the contract has since been awarded and if so, the details of the party to whom it has been awarded; and

(d) by when the task of widening the road is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMET (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) Tenders were invited after finalisation of NIT by the competent autnority. Offers have been received from 14 contractors. The case for approval of the rate and agency of the lowest tenderer has been processed. The work of widening the road will be completed within an years' time after the award of the same to the contractor.

Commissioning of Meridian Hotel and Hotel Bharat

2318. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some facilites were granted to Meridian Hotel and Hotel Bharat of New Delhi, on the understanding that they would be completed and commissioned in time to meet the ASIAD Games requirements, but that they failed to do so;

(b) whether it is a fact that even then moratorium facility has been granted to them for delayed payment of land-rent and interest of more than Rs. 17.86 crores and Rs. 7.23 crores respectively;

(c) what are the names of other concerns to whom moratorium of the same magnitude and period has been granted; and

(d) what are the details of the facilities, mentioned in part (a) above granted to them and how much benefit they meant to each of them in terms of money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH: (a) The two hotel sites were allotted by Government to the NDMC but

NDMC in turn entered into licence agreement with the two hotels. No facilities were granted to the NDMC while allotting the plots in question. According to NDMC's report the two hotels were required to complete construtcion and commission only 100 to 150 rooms before the commencement of Asian Games, 1982 and hotels had completed and commissioned these rooms in time.

(b) the NDMC have reported that according to the licence deed the hotels were granted moratorium on payment of licence fee falling due in 1982-83. This facility has been extended by NDMC from time to time and is now valid upto 30th September, 1987 in the case of Meridian hotel and 30th November, 1987 in the case of Bharat Hotel.

(c) The NDMC have granted moratorium to M/s. Prominent Hotels Ltd. upto 30th June, 1987.

(d) According to NDMC the moratorium amount and interst payable by the hotels are as follows:—

(i) *Meridian Hotel (Upto Sep.,1987)*	
Moratorium amount	Rs. 13·40 Crores
Interest	Rs. 5.56 Crores
(ii) *Bharat Hotel (Upto 16-11-87)*	
Moratorium amount	Rs. 5·80 Crores
Interest	Rs. 2·00 Crores

Rise in input costs

2319. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total rise in percentage of the input costs, during the whole period of 1982-85 regarding wheat crop in Haryana and Punjab, paddy in Punjab and Assam, Barley in Rajasthan and cotton in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Punjab;

(b) what has been the corresponding total rise in percentage of their support prices during the same period; and

(c) whether the farmers have been comparatively losers as a result thereof and if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The available information is given in the statement. (See below.)

(c) The support/procurement prices fixed by the Government are generally higher than the cost of production of agricultural commodities and thus provide a reasonable margin of profit to farmers. This gives the necessary incentives to them for investment and adoption of improved technology. However, variations may occasionally manifest in case of some crops due to agro-climatic and other factors.